

In the Claims

Amend claims 3 to 6 as follows. Cancel claims 1 and 2.

3. (Amended) [Use] The method according to claim [1 or 2] 12, wherein the transgene is a secretable protein.

4. (Amended) [Use] The method according to claim 3 wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of Factor IX, ApoB, β -interferon, insulin, erythropoietin, growth hormone, and parathyroid hormone.

5. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [any one] either of claims [1 to 4] 11 or 12, wherein the rAAV consists of, from 5' to 3', 5' AAV [inverse] inverted terminal repeats (ITRs), a heterologous promoter, the transgene, a polyadenylation sequence, and 3' AAV ITRs.

6. (Amended) [Use] The method according to claim [1 or 2] 12, wherein the transgene is a dystrophin gene.

Add new claims 11 to 15 as follows.

11. A method for reducing an immune response to a recombinant adeno-associated virus (rAAV), comprising the step of administering to a skeletal muscle cell an rAAV that comprises a heterologous gene operably linked to sequences that control the expression thereof in a cell, wherein the rAAV is substantially free of contamination with a helper virus.

12. A method for prolonging expression of a transgene, comprising the step of administering to a skeletal muscle cell a rAAV that comprises the transgene operably linked to sequences that control the expression thereof in a cell, wherein the rAAV is substantially free of contamination with a helper virus.